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§ 97. Some more rare Southern Plants.

Indigofera Anil, Linn.—Introduced over a century ago for Indigo culture, and still surviving on old settled places along the seaboard.

Conyza ambigua, DC.—This plant, common enough in the streets of Charleston and on old places thirty or forty miles around, is *C. sinuata*, Ell. Introduced.

Rudbeckia? Porteri, Gray.—I found this species in 1848 at Stone Mt., Ga., growing abundantly on the ridges and top of the mountain with *Quercus Georgiana*. Prof. T. C. Porter had just preceded me in its discovery and the uncertain genus was dedicated to him. I have never heard of it any where else.

This outlying granitic peak in middle Georgia seems to have an interesting Flora. Besides *Quercus Georgiana* and *Rudbeckia? Porteri*, I found a well-marked variety of *Hypericum prolificum*, and Mr. Canby has since (in 1869) found a new species of *Isoetes* growing in shallow pools on the summit.

Carya olivæformis, Nutt.—This species, a native of the S. Western Gulf States, is thoroughly naturalized on the seaboard region of this State. I have seen ten old trees which were said to be the original planting over a century ago, with a diameter of some three or four feet. They have been propagated spontaneously as well as by hand of man, grow vigorously and bear fruit abundantly. It is a curious fact, however, that seedlings oftener produce a nut more closely resembling *C. aquatica* (common in the swamps around) than the original Pecan. Is this the result of true hybridity?—or, only of a strong tendency to variation, developed in a region of country where *C. aquatica* is the native type?

Juniperus communis, Linn.—This tree is not accredited south of New Jersey in any of our botanical books. A few years ago I found two patches of the prostrate form growing on poor sandy hills about two miles south-west of Aiken. This spot is in virgin forest of Pine, Oak, &c., and there are no signs of clearing or of former cultivation, by which their introduction may be traced to hand of man. The plants are *strictly prostrate*, some of the limbs eight to ten feet long, trailing on the surface without any assurgency towards the extremities. Strange that the Alpine form of a tree which grows one thousand miles north, should be found here, flourishing on these warm sand hills!

Mercurialis annua, Willd.—I found this plant many years ago, growing very luxuriantly near the wharves in Charleston. Introduced.

Stillingia sebifera, Mx.—This exotic from the East, is now thoroughly naturalized around Charleston, and for some forty or fifty miles distant. Many years ago, visiting the former residence of Thomas Walter, the author of *Flora Caroliniana*, on the Santee River, I saw there two clusters of this tree, bearing marks of old age. They had successfully resisted the encroachments of the surrounding vegetation, and, together with one or two other plants,

were the sole survivors of his botanical garden. Walter died in 1788.

Epidendrum conopseum, Ait.—This, the only tree Orchid in our State, ranges from Florida upwards along the coast. Elliott records, as its most northern locality, Edding's Bay, at entrance of Port Royal Inlet. I found it many years ago, but only in small quantity, not more than ten or a dozen specimens altogether, about thirty miles north of Charleston, near the village of Pinepolis, not far from Monck's corner on N. E. R. R. It was growing on *Nyssa aquatica*, in damp Pine woods. This is probably the most Northern limit yet discovered.

H. W. RAVENEL.

AIKEN, S. C.

§ 98. **Distribution of *Preissia commutata***, Nees.—My attention has been called to a note from Edward S. Burgess, Panama, N. Y., in the September number of the BULLETIN (Vol. 6, No. 9), which contains the statement that this plant is "said in Sullivant's Manual to grow at Lake Superior and Niagara Falls, the only two habitats hitherto known in this country," and adds the newly discovered habitat at Panama, N. Y.

I was not aware that this plant is supposed to be so restricted in its distribution. I have collected it on the lower as well as the upper peninsula of Michigan, and in Wisconsin, on Lakes Huron and Michigan, as well as on Lake Superior, at which last mentioned place it is most abundant. On referring to my notes I find the following records of localities of the plant: On Lake Superior, on sandstone rocks at Laughing-Fish River, Michigan, June 14, 1867; and at Eagle River, Mich., Sept. 10, 1871; beside a number of places of which I have no record. On Lake Michigan; on rocks, White-Fish Bay, Wisconsin, June, 1866. On Lake Huron; Port Austin, Michigan, June 18, 1872, on Sandrock, and Pointe Détour, Michigan, on rocks, Sept. 19, 1875. It is worthy of mention that Pointe Détour is thickly strewn with drift boulders, some of a large size, brought from Lake Superior and northward, and here deposited by glacial action; and it was on these boulders only that the *Preissia* (probably thus transported from the northward) was found by me. The rock in place belongs to the Niagara Limestone, and abounds in the most interesting corals, shells, etc., of that group. The plant seemingly prefers sandstone rock. At Port Austin, far to the southward of Pointe Détour, the sandstone on which this hepatica grows is in place, but it is of a later formation.

Aplectrum with Coral-like root.—I have lately discovered (April 9, 1876.) in the woods north-east of Detroit, Mich., two adjoining plants of *Aplectrum hyemale*, Nutt., having branched and toothed coral-like roots, similar to those of the genus *Corallorrhiza*, immediately below the usual bulb or corm, which also had the ordinary rootlets. Each plant had the green leaf which the species sends up in Autumn. The coral-like roots appeared to be parasitic on the partly decayed bark of a tree-root. A large number of plants of the species (much more than one hundred) taken from the same locality at different times, presented no such peculiarity. This is an interesting and significant discovery, and, as Prof. Gray (to